

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please amend the paragraph on page 127, line 21 through page 128, line 8 as follows:

Now, a material to compose the ~~alignment~~ orientation layer will be described. Specifically listed are the following resins as well as base boards, though the present invention is not limited to these. For example, listed are polyimides, polyamidoimides, polyamides, polyether imides, polyether ether ketones, polyether ketones, polyketone sulfides, polyether sulfones, polysulfones, polyphenylene sulfides, polyphenylene oxides, polyethylene terephthalate, polybutylene terephthalate, polyethylene naphthalate, polyacetals, polycarbonates, polyallylates, acrylic resins, polyvinyl alcohols, polypropylene, cellulose based plastics, epoxy resins, phenol resins, and the like.

Please amend the paragraph on page 128, line 9 through page 128, line 13 as follows:

The ~~alignment~~ orientation layer can be obtained in such a manner that after applying any of the aforementioned orientation materials onto a transparent support, and subsequently drying the resultant coating, a rubbing treatment is carried out.

Please amend the paragraph on page 128, line 14 through page 128, line 22 as follows:

A polyimide layer (preferably polyimide having fluorine atoms), which is widely employed as an LCD ~~alignment~~ orientation layer, is preferred as the ~~alignment~~ orientation layer. It is possible to obtain said layer by applying, onto a transparent support, polyamic acid (for example, LQ/LX Series manufactured by Hitachi Kasei Co., Ltd., and SE Series manufactured by Nissan Kagaku Co., Ltd) and applying thermal treatment to the resultant coating and then rubbing the resultant coated layer.

Please amend the paragraph on page 128, line 23 through page 129, line 8 as follows:

The aforementioned rubbing treatment may be carried out utilizing a treatment method which is widely employed as an LCD liquid crystal orientation process. Namely, it is possible to employ a method in which orientation is obtained by rubbing the surface of the ~~alignment~~ orientation layer in the definite direction employing paper, gauze, felt, rubber, nylon, polyester fiber, and the like. Commonly, the surface of the ~~alignment~~ orientation layer is rubbed several times employing a cloth prepared by uniformly planted fiber having a uniform length and diameter.

Please amend the paragraph on page 138, lines 1-13 as follows:

On the other hand, when liquid crystalline compounds are liquid crystalline polymers, it is unnecessary to fix the orientation of liquid crystals employing hardening reaction, that is the aforementioned chemical reaction. In the temperature range in which an optically anisotropic film is employed without causing problems, for example, when a liquid crystalline polymer has a liquid crystal transition temperature of 90°C or

higher, after applying said liquid crystalline polymer onto an ~~alignment~~ orientation layer, the resultant coating is heated at a temperature within the range of the liquid crystal transition temperature to results in orientation and then cooled to room temperature. By so doing, the orientation of the liquid crystal is maintained.